From: Kelley, Craig
To: jude
Subject: Re: Cambridge City Council and the Israel BDS movement
Date: Sunday, April 15, 2018 2:45:57 PM

Thanks, Jude.

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On Apr 15, 2018, at 2:25 PM, jude <glaubman.jude@gmail.com> wrote:

> Hi Craig
> Thanks for getting back to me. I don't understand your point about manipulating local government. I think it's our duty to engage with our local government about issues that matter. For me, as a concerned voter in Cambridge, whose family in Israel is deeply affected by decisions here--if there's action I can take at the local level that will help advance the chance of peace and justice in Israel/Palestine, I will do so. The government in Israel has been hijacked by the rightwing and the illegal settler movement--illegal by all international and US policy (until Trump took office).
> I was proud that the city council just admonished Saudi Arabia:
>
> > On April 2nd, 2018, Cambridge City Counselor Quinton Zondervan's resolution on the Oppressive Policies of the Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed Bin Salman was adopted. The resolution criticizes the violent and warmongering policies that Saudi Arabia has used during its war in Yemen.
> >
> > The resolution went on to admonish Saudi Arabia's energy policies that literally fuel the conflict in Yemen, sectarian conflict in the Middle East, and terrorist groups around the world. Saudi Arabia continues to rely on selling oil as the basis for its economy, despite the clear and present danger of climate change to the entire planet, and uses the wealth it derives from oil sales to purchase weapons and wage war.
> >
> > The City Council went on record in opposition to the oppressive policies of MbS and Saudi Arabia, stated its disappointment at the manner in which the visit was hidden by Harvard and MIT, and requested that copies of the resolution be delivered to the Presidents of both MIT and Harvard as well as MBS.
>
> It is very dangerous if the Israeli government and its policies are exempt from criticism because you could be called anti-semitic if you question them. Deciding not to renew the city's contracts with HP is in keeping with Cambridge's stance on human rights.
>
> Judith Glaubman
> 154 Auburn Street
> 617 868 6632

On Fri, Apr 13, 2018 at 8:46 AM, Kelley, Craig <ckelley@cambridgema.gov> wrote:

> Thanks for your note, Jude.

I know next to nothing about this except that I am being bombarded with emails from people who seem to know more and I found a flyer at the Kennedy School last week. I am meeting with pro and con folks next week and the week after to learn more.

Not having seen the resolution, which won't be officially posted until the Thursday before the Council meeting, I cannot say anything with surety except that I will not support an attempt to delegitimize Israel although I could be supportive of something that expresses concerns over some of Israel's policies without singling them out as the only nation in the world with problematic policies.

I also think this is a lousy way to manipulate local government. If we want to take stances on good and bad in the world, and arguably we should, it only seems fair that we do so via some agreed upon criteria that does not single out specific entities for the sake of political expedience.

But like I said, I actually have not seen anything for the Council yet so my opinion is not well informed.

Craig